

ENERGY TIDBITS

September 2005

Inspiring Efficiency Leadership Award has been given to Governor Jennifer Granholm by the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance. The award winners will be officially recognized at a reception and ceremony taking place from 6-9 p.m. on the first day of the 2005 Midwest Energy Solutions conference, Monday, October 3.

www.mwalliance.org/conference

Unleashing the Potential: Future of Energy in Michigan (October 20) and Wind Energy in Michigan (October 21) Conferences will be held in downtown Lansing at the Radisson Hotel. The Future of Energy in Michigan will provide a forum on successful energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. Topics will include Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard, Best Practices in Energy Programs, Energy Policy Update, Project Financing, and more. Wind Energy in Michigan will cover both small and large wind energy systems, success stories, community wind, economic development potential, and more. www.glrea.org

Canadian Government will contribute C\$1 million to launch the first phase of a net zero energy residential housing initiative. The funding will jumpstart construction of 14 demonstration houses that will involve the installation of solar PV panels, geothermal heat pumps, and high energy efficiency practices. There will be one demonstration house in each province and territory, and one in the capital of Ottawa, and is the first phase of 1,500 homes planned within five years.

Manufacturing "Green" Powertrain: Challenges & Opportunities for Automotive Supply Base will be held at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi on September 13, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm. This workshop provides an in-depth look at the product development of alternative technologies for "green" powertrain applications. Participants will learn best practices in manufacturing, engineering applications and materials advancements. Presentations include a focus on developing a future manufacturing component and engineering supply base. Contact: www.sme.org/midwest

West Michigan Chapter Assoc. of Energy Engineers will hold a September 7 meeting at the Watermark Country Club in Grand Rapids from 4:40-7:30 pm. Brandy Minikey, Energy Office, will talk about the Michigan Rebuild program & services.

www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaaid=94097

Zero Energy Home will be built by Decker Homes in northwest Ohio. The Energy Star home will include 4.5 kW of PV shingles from Uni-Solar. The sun-friendly home is located in the Deer Valley development, a 100% Energy Star community in Monclova.

Consumer Forums will be held by the Michigan Public Service Commission in September. The seven forums are designed to inform consumers about changes in the electric, natural gas and telephone industries. www.michigan.gov/mpsc

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2005 ASHRAE Student Design Project Competition winners have been announced in 3 categories – HVAC system selection, refrigeration system design and architectural design. First place in the architectural category was awarded to Dan Guith and Scott Poloney of Lawrence Technological University. Their advisor is Daniel Faoro. The students selected 7 criteria to guide their design: promote community, energy use, recycling, climatic issues, water runoff/reuse, materials and alternative transportation. To save energy, they designed a tower with the south face glazing screened by a large arched sunscreen. PV film is used to help produce energy that can be used within the structure. A geothermal system heats and cools the smaller portion of the building and a high efficiency natural gas fired absorption chiller system services the larger portion. The building also has an onsite blackwater system that recycles 100% of the building's wastewater. Water recaptured by the system is used to supply the cooling tower and the building's toilets. Awards will be presented at ASHRAE's 2006 Winter Meeting Jan. 21-25 in Chicago.

PV Apprentice Training will be held on October 3-7 at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. www.glrea.org

Jimmy Carter Work Project 2005 included 30 new Energy Star qualified Habitat for Humanity homes that were built in southwest Detroit the week of June 17-24. WARM Training Center and Doug Black, Enerficiency, assisted with training, analysis, and inspections.

WARM Training Center in Detroit will have an Intro to Renewable Energy seminar on Sept. 7, an Intro to Green Building seminar on Sept. 14, and a Saving Money by Saving Energy seminar on Sept. 21. Call 313-894-1030 x. 119 to pre-register.

Solar Domestic Hot Water Rebates are still available until October 1 or until the budgeted dollars run out. Approximately 1/3 of the rebate dollars are left. Energy Office rebates will be based on the sq.ft. of collector size for flat plate collectors or linear feet of collector for evacuated tube collectors. Rebates may not exceed \$4,000 or 50% of project cost. For more detailed information and program applications please call (866) 846-7349.

New Federal Tax Credits will be available for PV or solar water heating systems installed in 2006 and 2007. The tax credit will be 30% of expenditures up to \$2,000. There also will be \$2,000 tax credits for builders who build homes that are 50% more efficient than the 2004 IECC and a maximum \$500 tax credit for a variety of energy efficiency improvements to an existing home.

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Advanced Design and Energy Technologies for Higher Education Facilities seminar will be held on September 23, 8:30 am-4:00 pm at the Michigan Historical Library and Museum in Lansing. Registration: www.michigan.gov/eoworkshops

Green by Design 2 will be held September 28-29 in Grand Rapids for business leaders, designers, architects, educators and government representatives. General sessions will be led by Tom Chappell of Tom's of Maine, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. and Stuart L. Hart, PhD and William McDonough will participate in a leadership roundtable. www.greenbydesign.biz

Introduction to Renewable Energy Seminars will be held on September 10 at the GLREA Center in Dimondale. www.glrea.org

America's Top 10 Green Schools as picked by *The Green Guide* includes the Goodwillie Environmental School in Ada. Designed for the Forest Hills School District, the LEED-certified project included students in studying its environmental impact during the building's creation. Under project architect Jim vander Molen and the firm's director of sustainability Jeff Remtema, the design was laid out to nestle between the woods and a restored pesticide-free prairie, allowing every class to open up to the outdoors. Windows covering the entire South wall can be opened for ventilation while the heating system uses the back wall and the floor as a thermal mass. The design includes no A/C, geothermal heat loop, recycling, and low- or no-VOC interior finishes. More: <http://www.thegreenguide.com/doc.mhtml?i=109&s=schools>

U-M Energy Fest 2005 "Status & Development of PV Module Technology" a presentation by Bolko von Roedern, National Renewable Energy Lab, will be on September 14, 4:00 pm at the University of Michigan, Dana Building, Room 1040.



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